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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

DECEMBER 1978

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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

December 1978

STATE OF MONTANA

THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
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Volume 8 Number 12

Produced by:
Research and Analysis
in cooperation with the
U. S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5. Residence Data - a count of employment by where people live.

6. Establishment Data - a count of employment by where people work.

7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonal factor method.

8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six leading indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is in no manner or form comparable to the United States composite index as published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.

9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income, Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.

10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.

11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.

12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

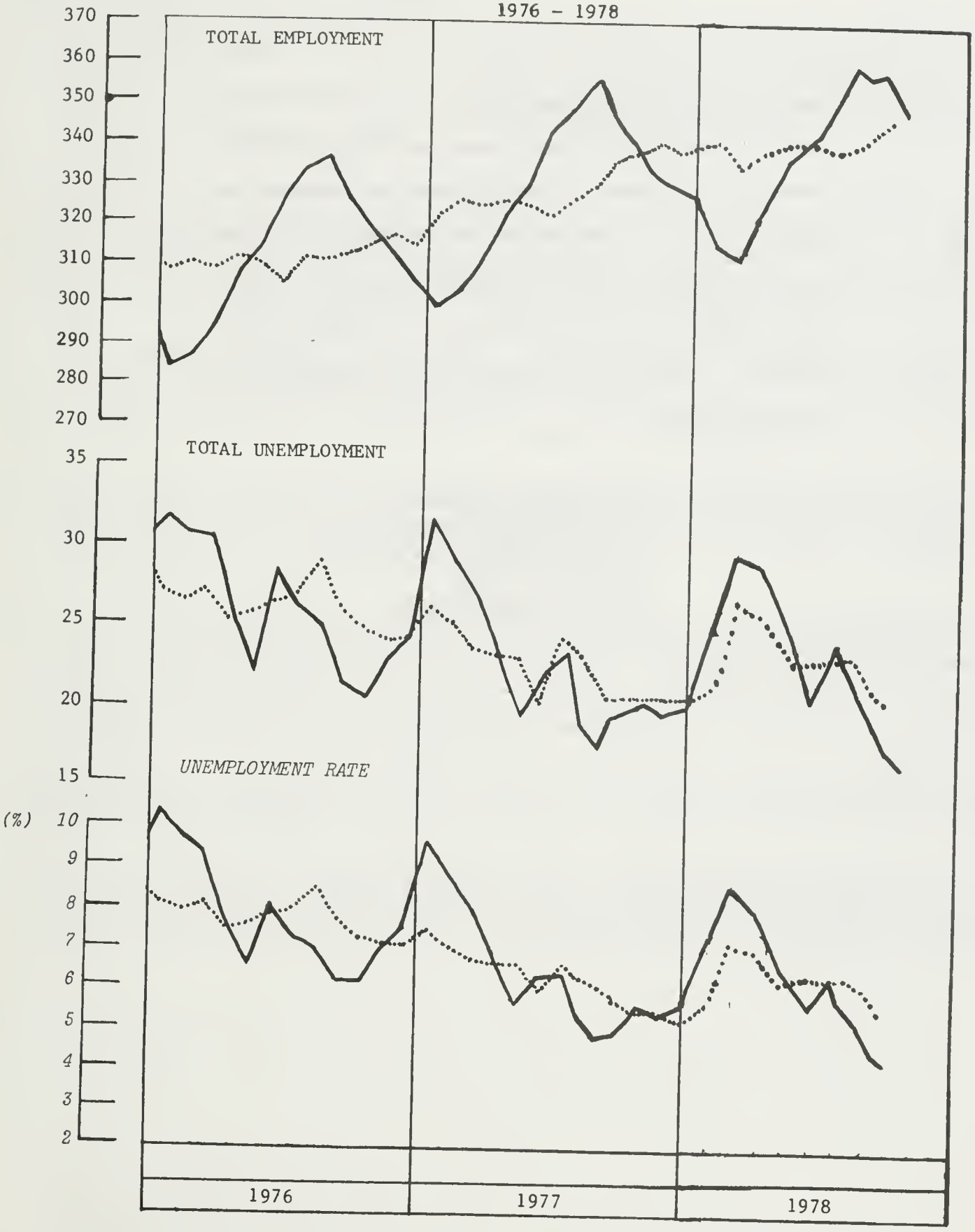
13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.

14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: _____)
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: .....)

1976 - 1978



All Labor Force Statistics contained in this publication are in accordance with the Federal guidelines as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Methodology procedures use a household sample conducted in Montana on a monthly basis, called the Current Population Survey. These official statistics are used to allocate federal funding. Any questions concerning these figures should be directed to:

Dick Gibson, Supervisor
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P. O. Box 1728
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STATEWIDE HIGHLIGHTS

The civilian labor force figure for November is 360,800 a 5.5% increase from last November's 342,100. Employment shows a somewhat larger 6.4% jump from last November and is now at 342,200. Both of these calculations have dropped since October due to seasonal factors.

Unemployment rose by 2,600 during the month and registers at 18,600 for November. This compares favorably, however, with last November as 20,400 persons were tallied as out of work at that time. The unemployment rate for November is 5.2%, a substantial increase from last month's 4.4% but well below last November's rate of 6.0%. The labor force statistics continue to note growth in employment and the civilian labor force, and unemployment is down when compared to last year, all positive signs for the Montana economy.

Weather has been the major economic force in Montana during the past month as snow and cold have forced job shutdowns and layoffs in various sectors. Construction projects are continuing where they have been enclosed, but outside work and all highway projects have ceased. Logging has also been slowed at times although most lumber and wood products facilities report that their supplies of raw material are adequate.

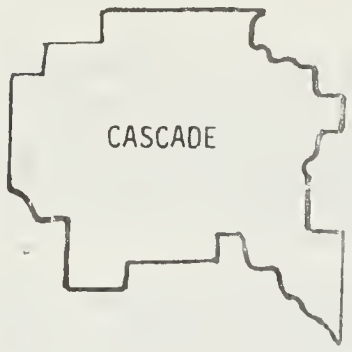
Agriculture is in its seasonal lull with few activities occurring due to the inclement weather. Some ranchers have started feeding operations as the snow cover adversely affects grazing so there has been some demand for workers in feeding activities. In a related report, a federal survey states that farm earnings are up for the region, and bankers are optimistic about farm earnings and spending.

The construction sector has been hit hardest by the early, sustained winter weather but various new projects have been reported. A large expansion of a wood products firm near Missoula involves four buildings and over $11 million. The Billings area has several large hotel/motel convention center projects in either actual building or planning stages. The construction portion of a large copper and silver mine and processing facility near Libby might begin soon as the state permit has been issued.

Retail stores are having a good holiday season with good sales reported in almost all areas. Again this month the fastest selling items have been winter related ones as the weather has set the mood.

The monthly figures indicate that Montanans' real wages are up slightly, but the future outlook for the state's economy remains questionable. Real spendable wages were up slightly for the month, but inflation kept a large increase in gross wages from raising the real spendable calculation by much. The composite index of six leading indicators rose again this month, but the trend is still not apparent enough to merit any predictions.

GREAT FALLS SMSA (Cascade County)



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The number of jobless persons in the Great Falls area jumped by 700 during the month of November and now is at 2,300, or 300 more than at this time last year. Consequently the unemployment rate also increased from 5.5% in October to 6.6% in November. This rate is also well above both last November's rate of 5.7% for the SMSA, and the current statewide rate of 5.2%. The areas unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the states and this problem has become persistent.

The civilian labor force for November is at 35,400 a drop of 700 from October's 35,100 level. The statistic shows no growth since last November as the civilian labor force was also at 35,400 then. Employment, on the other hand, has dropped by 100 since October and 300 since last November. Employment now registers at a 33,100 level for November. These statistics are certainly not that positive, as a rising unemployment rate combined with a shrinking civilian labor force are not good signs for the SMSA.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Great Falls has been adversely effected, as has most of the state by the adverse weather that has continued for most of the month. Construction projects, both large and small, have laid off an estimated 400 workers as activity came to a halt. A local manufacturing plant has also laid off individuals throughout the period.

Agricultural activity has also been slowed or altered by the weather conditions in the area. All of the earlier seeding and field preparation activities have ended, with the most prevalent activity now being winter feeding of livestock. The local Job Service office has placed several general farmhands during the month.

The trade sector is showing increases normal for the Christmas buying season. Some new firms have opened during the period creating a slight demand for workers. Established firms are also hiring temporary help for the "rush" season.

The service sector has been reported to be very slow, with very few hires taking place. Some conventions are being attracted to area facilities, but otherwise this is definitely the low season in the hotel/motel business.

A survey of rural agriculture bankers conducted by a federal banking organization indicates that the bankers are optimistic about farm spending and earnings. Earnings are reportedly up from a year ago according to the survey. This is good news to the agrarian related businesses in the Great Falls SMSA.

An industrial park development is continuing to grow in Great Falls, as businesses complete their facilities and others purchase their land. A cabinet shop and another office have recently relocated to the park. A printing concern and union training center have negotiated to purchase land in the area, while reports indicate that a bar/lounge and an auto stereo shop will also locate there. The park has sold about 37% of its land according to the Director, so the expansion should continue.

BILLINGS SMSA (Yellowstone County)

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The normal seasonal drop in the civilian labor force and employment was realized as winter weather set in. The civilian labor force for November totaled 54,000, 700 higher than October's count of 53,000. September's tally showed 54,300 individuals were in the labor force. Last year the count stood at 53,800. Employment remained at 51,700, the same as last month and 600 less than September. The current number of job-holders rose 200 or 0.4% above last year.

The unemployment rate climbed to 4.2% from 3.6% in September and 3.0% in October. The 4.2% rate also occurred last year at this date. The comparable statistics point out the stability of the Billings area economy. The number of unemployed rose to 2,300 this month, 700 above October and 300 higher than the previous month. Last year's jobless were counted at 200 more than the current level. The diversification of this economy limits the effects of seasonal industries and promotes stable growth.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

In the Laurel area recent heavy snows have curtailed highway and building construction, some indoor work remains available. The economy was kept active by oil refining, railroad maintenance and related operation, manufacturing and holiday spurred retail business.

Although Billings area construction has halted for the winter season, future developments do have favorable implications. Downtown Billings has started a 250 room hotel, a 350 room expansion is planned for a major motel, a tire and service shop is adding 6,400 square feet to its facility, and a downtown bank has relocated so its building can be razed for parking. During November 102 building permits were sought, the value was estimated at 55 million.

The agricultural sector has reached its seasonal slowdown and has had few calls for employment. Other sectors are reporting more brisk activity. The major communication company plans to hire 60 operators as part of a centralization plan. Sugar beet processing is continuing on schedule. Opening of both a fast-food and adjoining restaurant should employ about 65 employees. One packing company had to temporarily lay off 62 workers because of a product shortage. Several new small businesses have opened recently with hopes of capturing the increased holiday trade. Retail employment opportunities are very good as of the present.

ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The November civilian labor force counted 34,700 persons. One year ago the labor force tallied at 32,700, thus a 6.1% gain occurred during the year. Last month the labor force equaled 35,200. Employment dropped 600 from last month to a level of 32,600. The current figure is 2,300 or 7.6% above last year's count. Despite the normal seasonal contractions, a growth pattern can be observed from year-wide figures.

The November unemployment level of 2,100 was 300 fewer than one year ago. September's jobless count of 2,300 was also above the current number. October's job-seekers totaled 2,000. The November unemployment rate of 6.1% was the same in September. Last month's rate equaled 5.7% The current rate is a net decline of 1.3% from last year's 7.4%.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Dillon reported that 20 new homes are under construction. Interior work is being completed by eleven hires on both a new office building and a new hardware store. The interstate construction project is expected to continue throughout the winter. The entire project employs 85 men and should be completed in September of 1979.

The agricultural sector continued its seasonal slowdown. Winter preparation is the main activity, with some work available in building lamb sheds or hauling hay.

Generally, employer demands remain centered in the areas of clerical, hospital, and service personnel. Retail stores are gearing up for the holiday season. Outside recruitment from a South Dakota mining company was conducted in Butte. The recruiter hired 50 workers to report in the next 30 days. Local and statewide checking has not been able to find research engineers for the energy development project.

Less favorable developments caused by seasonal weather have occurred. Logging and outdoor construction are most affected. The Forest Service laid off its seasonal employees and some temporary workers were released by a mining company. The Forest Service did have an opening for limited income individuals 55 years of age and above. The program takes advantage of previously acquired skills which the senior citizens possess.

BOZEMAN LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

Normal seasonal contractions affected the LMA. The labor force dropped down 300 from October and 600 from September to a level of 28,800. One year ago the civilian labor force stood at 23,700, this figure is 21.5% below the current statistics. Employment improved 23.7% from last year and reached 27,700 persons. October's job-holders numbered 400 below September's employment of 28,500.

Unemployment rose 200 from September and 100 from last month to reach a level of 1,100. November of last year counted 1,300 job seekers. The unemployment rate grew steadily during the past three months. September's rate of 2.9% rose to 3.3% in October and gained to 3.9% for November. Comparison shows the rate one year ago was much greater at 5.6% than the present statistic.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

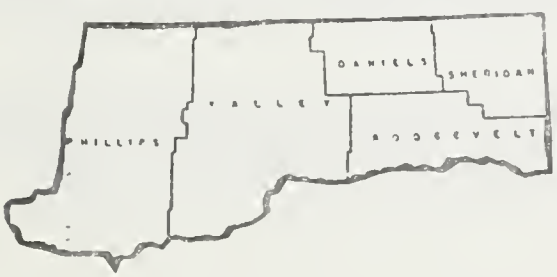
Cold weather and normal seasonal trends have slowed much of the economic activity. Most affected by the weather is construction related employment. In Livingston a sawmill had to cut its hours because of conditions. A ready-mix plant in Bozeman had to close operations and lay off approximately 12 drivers. Building in general has shut down except for some indoor projects. November's building permits were at $1,012,000 and when compared with last year's $3,080,662, it appears the effect is caused by both credit and weather limitations.

The LMA's prefabricated builder seems to be having a very good production year. In three years employment has about doubled to approximately 200 for the manufacturer. Plans also exist for expansion of the facility with the possibility of hiring 100 additional workers, no date has been announced as of yet.

The rail corporation has hired a crew of 8 to remove rail lines. Work on the lines is expected to continue through next summer.

The agricultural sector has also been slowed by winter's arrival. Most of the activity centers around winter preparation. Some hiring for care and feeding of livestock took place as snow and cold temperatures instrumented early need for hay and feed supplements.

GLASGOW LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor force for the LMA is declining, both seasonally and from last year. The current November level of 15,300 places the civilian labor force 5.0% below last November's figure and 500 lower than October's. Employment is showing similar declines as November's 14,700 statistic is 3.3% lower than last November's. The number of employed people dropped by 500 from October to November of this year.

GLASGOW LMA (Cont.)

The jobless rate is, however, an improvement over last year as the labor force declines faster than the number of employed. The November unemployment rate of 4.8% is a notable improvement over last November's 5.8% rate, even though it is a slight rise from October's 3.8%. The number of unemployed has stayed at 600 for the last two months, but this is 300 less than last November's calculation of 900 unemployed individuals. The unemployment figures for the Glasgow LMA are improving, but the change is a result of a shrinking labor force not a growth in employment.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Oil activity is very high in Roosevelt and Sheridan Counties as the energy situation in the nation intensifies the search for oil and gas. The nearby area of Williston, North Dakota reports similar activity. There are reports of openings for qualified, experienced workers on the drill rigs.

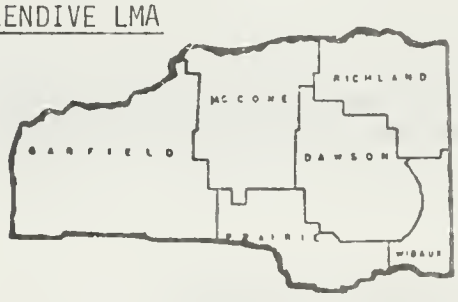
Construction of the bentonite plant south of Malta is concluding and some operational hiring has begun. Inside work is continuing on a club building, a church, a government office, a manor, and several housing units in the Glasgow area, but most outside construction has ceased due to inclement weather.

The packing plant near Glasgow continues to hire more workers. The plant was reopened earlier in the year and has been gradually increasing its output.

Retail establishments in the LMA report that receipts are up and a good year has occurred in the trade sector. The Christmas buying should top off an excellent year. Openings have been reported for motel workers and food service workers in the area.

Some layoffs have occurred recently due to the weather. Most of the unemployment claims filed indicate that construction has been hit the hardest by work stoppages. A hospital was reported to be laying off some employees due to a low patient load at this time.

GLENDIVE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor force showed a decline over the last two months and last year. The labor force was counted at 14,200 in October, 14,800 persons during September and 14,000 one year ago. In November the labor force contained 13,800 persons.

Employment decreased 500 from October to a level of 13,400. One year ago employment was reported at 13,600. The 4% decline in job holders from last month is a normal seasonal adjustment.

Glendive again had the lowest monthly unemployment rate in the state. The rate 2.7% is a .5% net drop from last year. October's unemployment rate tallied at 2.0%, while the jobless count equaled 300. The current number of unemployed stands at 400, which was the same one year ago. Normal seasonal contractions appear to be setting the trend for the Glendive LMA.

GLENDIVE LMA (Cont.)

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

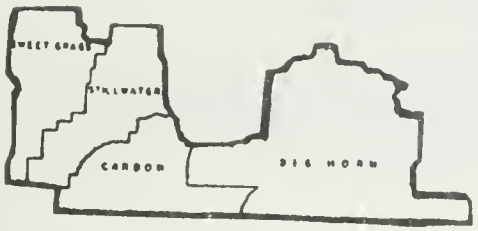
During this reporting period retail merchants began preparation for the Christmas season. Winter clothing and other needs also accentuate the business sector's job openings. Construction, although hampered by winter weather, continues to be a factor in the LMA.

A fertilizer plant is well into its construction phase at Richey. It is scheduled to open in the spring and have a 750 ton capacity. The 33 megawatt power plant under construction near Glendive received its electrical generator and work should be complete by May 1 of next year. The chain restaurant is expected to open in mid-December and it should hire 60-75 workers.

Farm laborers are also wanted to help with winter preparation and livestock feeding. Oilfield activity showed an increase this month with a need for seismic workers. Skilled medical personnel are in short supply as compared with other employment areas.

The sugar beet campaign is still a major factor in the LMA, involving both manufacturing and transportation sectors. Oil exploration and related work continued to remain stable.

HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor force for November is at 11,400, 1.8% higher than last November's 11,200. The level is a drop of 300 from October's 11,700 but such a seasonal decrease can be expected in the agrarian economy of the LMA. Employment also showed such seasonal drops, as the November figure of 10,900 is 400 below October's 11,300 level. This employment figure shows a 3.8% increase over last year's November calculation indicating that growth has occurred.

The jobless rate for November is at 5.0% a full percentage point below last November's 6.0% rate, but an increase from October's 3.6%. The number of unemployed persons is now at 600, an increase of 200 from October's level of 400, but below last November's figure of 700. The labor force statistics do not indicate that bad of a situation with increased employment and a lower unemployment rate when compared to last year.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

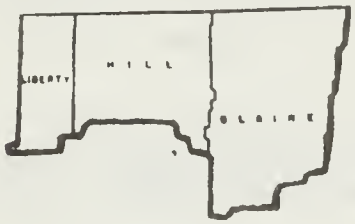
A local coal mine that has been closed down is still in the news. The owner says the permit problems which caused the shutdown are being corrected and the mine will reopen. The work should take several months and then production will resume. The report indicates that future production may increase as the operation starts up again.

Agriculture is now in its low season, as little activity can occur outdoors this time of year. Some feeding activity is commencing as the snow cover dictates, but most other activity has ceased.

HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA (Cont.)

Recreation is becoming a big business in the area and winter recreation is no exception. The ski area is open and the area also abounds with opportunities for cross country skiing and snowmobiling. The related retail and service establishments should have a good year if the early start of winter is an indicator.

HAVRE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The unemployment rate rose to 4.4% in November as compared with October's 3.5% and September's 3.6%. One year ago the unemployment rate stood at 3.9%. The current number of jobless stands at 500, the same as one year ago. Last month and the month preceding both tallied 400 unemployed individuals.

The civilian labor force declined steadily over the past three months, with September having 12,700 to October counting 12,000 to November showing 11,800 workers. The current statistic is 7.1% lower than one year ago. Employment for November is 7.4% below last year at 11,300. Last month contained 300 and September had 1,000 more job-holders than the current number.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Normal seasonal contractions continued as winter weather moved in. The agricultural sector has had few calls for employment. Winter preparation and livestock feeding seems to be the only activity. Construction projects except for sparse indoor work have been basically shutdown. Effects from the snow and cold have also slowed exploration drilling and related oilfield activities to their seasonal lower level.

Wholesale and retail trade show the most activity in the LMA. Items needed for the winter weather and holiday related goods have increased the business levels. Businesses are reporting above normal conditions and are expecting a good season.

HELENA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The unemployment rate rose rapidly during November to a 5.4% rate for the Helena LMA. Weather related layoffs probably caused the jump from October's 4.4% rate, but the current rate still compares favorably with last November's 5.8%. The number of jobless individuals rose by 200 during the month to a 1,400 level for November, as compared to last November's 1,500.

On the positive side employment and the civilian labor force show consistent growth over the past year. Employment stayed at the 25,500 level in November, the same as October, but an increase of 2,000 over last November's 23,500. This calculates to an 8.5% jump in employment over the last 12 months.

HELENA LMA (Cont.)

The civilian labor force has shown a 7.6% increase over last November's figure to a current level of 26,900. This is also an increase of 200 from October's calculation of 26,700. The Helena LMA is showing seasonal increases in unemployment, but the comparison to last November shows good growth in employment over the past year.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Weather related shutdowns continued in the Helena area as most outside work has ceased. The cold and snow began in early November and not much of a change in weather has occurred to allow any significant re-hiring of workers. Some inside work has continued and work is in progress on a health club west of Helena, a motel addition, and many housing projects.

A new restaurant will open soon and has completed interviewing for about 45 jobs at the local Job Service. The Legislature will convene in January and this will bring some temporary jobs to the area. The economic impact of the session is also felt in the service sector, as members and lobbyists work and stay in the Capitol City.

The retail sector reports strong Christmas sales, and generally an excellent year. Merchants are reporting extremely good sales of winter items, as the early snow and cold forced people to make purchases at this time.

The agricultural industry is basically in its slow time of the year as the weather dictates that few activities can continue. There have been some openings for feeders reported by the local Job Service, as the snow covered fields instigated feeding operations.

The upcoming legislative session and state budget will be carefully watched by the local economic community. The call for tax reductions with subsequent cutbacks in some programs could certainly affect employment levels in the government sector.

KALISPELL LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

Employment in the Kalispell LMA followed normal seasonal contractions. The November count of job-holders was at 33,700. October's employment numbered 34,200 and one year ago was 28,500. The current statistic is 18.2% greater than last year. The civilian labor force also showed growth during the year. Last year the labor force amounted to 31,400, but the November figure of 36,000 is 14.6% larger. Seasonal drops were still visible when the current number is compared with September's 37,700 and October's 36,500.

The jobless rate of 6.5% is a marked improvement over last year's rate of 9.1%. It should be noted that weather conditions can have a large affect on the labor markets seasonal economy. October's unemployment rate was at 6.3%. The number of unemployed for the current month is at 2,300, again this compares favorably with last year's 2,900. Unemployment for September was at 2,400 and October's figure was 2,300.

KALISPELL LMA (Cont.)

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

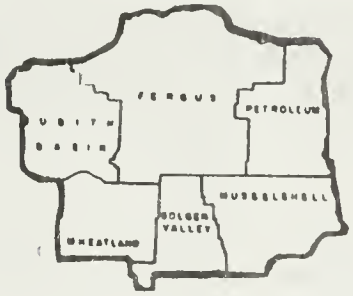
The normal seasonal and weather effects have caused contractions in the economy. Construction, except for indoor work, has been sparse. The different wood products industries have slowed operations and expect little change for the rest of winter. Agricultural sectors are at their lower winter pace, although some hiring for supplemental feeding and general preparation work has taken place.

Some activities have remained steady despite inclement weather. The dam project has approximately 135 workers currently. In Libby an insurance firm has begun construction on a new building. Due to good business, a local beehive manufacturer has been steadily adding employees. The Christmas tree harvest has peaked operation and employment. In Polson a 40 bed nursing home is scheduled to open in December, it expects to hire about 15 employees.

Other favorable economic news comes as plans for a mining corporation to build an underground mining and related processing facility. The project is expected to employ about 310 persons and should produce about 60,000 tons of ore concentrate per year.

The holiday season has spurred business activity causing some need for retail service trained personnel. The need for L.P.N.'s has not been met as the reporting period ends.

LEWISTOWN LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The jobless rate jumped during the month from October's 3.7% rate to the 4.6% calculated for November. This seasonal increase is, however, very comparable to last November's rate of 4.5%. The number of unemployed persons is 400, or 100 less than last November. The 400 unemployed figure is the same as the October calculation.

The rise in the unemployment rate is caused then not by a jump in the number unemployed, but rather by a decrease in the civilian labor force and employment statistics. The civilian labor force fell by 300 during the month to a November level of 9,700. This figure is also 300 lower than last November's 10,000. Employment decreased by a similar 300 from October's 9,600 to November's 9,300. The employment figure is also lower than last November's 9,500 indicating that the drop is slightly more than a seasonal happening. The labor force figures show that the Lewistown LMA has a slight contraction of the labor force with normal unemployment problems.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

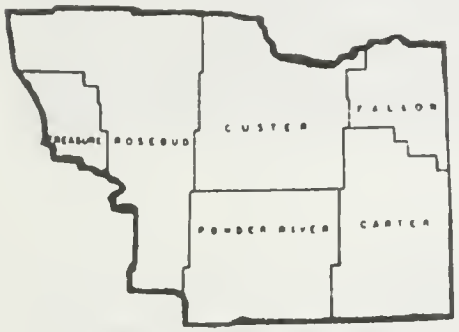
The trade sector is doing very well especially the retail establishments as Christmas approaches. Reports from the local Job Service indicate that hiring is steady in this industry as the very busy time of the year occurs.

LEWISTOWN LMA (Cont.)

Agriculture has ceased some activities due to adverse weather, but other operations are on the increase. Livestock feeding has begun on a large scale in the area as dictated by local snow cover conditions. There have been job openings for feeders in the LMA.

The weather has also been the prominent factor in the economic activity in other sectors. Construction has been almost completely closed down at times and sawmill activity is sporadic as the supply of logs depends on the loggers' ability to get out of the woods. There have been some periodic breaks in the weather allowing activity to resume in some industries.

MILES CITY LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The Miles City LMA has followed trends of seasonal contraction, but is also at lower activity levels than last year. The civilian labor force dropped to 14,100 from September's 15,000 and October's 14,400. One year ago there were 14,500 individuals in the labor force. Employment also declined over the year. The November figure was 13,500 as compared to last year's 13,800. September employment equaled 14,400 and October was counted at 13,900.

The number of jobless was 600 in November, the same as September, but 100 more than October. Unemployment did improve from last year's tally of 700. The unemployment rate for November was 4.4%. The rate was 3.7% in September and 3.3% in October. One year ago the jobless rate equaled 5.0%.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Inclement winter weather has slowed much of the economic activity. The road construction projects have ended operations for the season. Some building construction is taking place, but jobs are indoors or in their final stages. One of the projects still on schedule and 75% complete is a technical building for the college system.

A proposal to construct a low-income housing development has been made to Miles City. The complex would accommodate about 1,400 and should be finished in the spring of 1979, if all requirements are approved.

The supply of workers so far has met the increased business brought by the winter holiday season.

MISSOULA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The jobless rate in the Missoula LMA is at 5.5% for November down from last November's 7.2%.and slightly higher than last month's 5.3% rate. The number of unemployed shows similar movement with 2,900 tallied as unemployed in November compared to October's 2,800, while a 400 person drop is shown from last November's 3,300. The improving unemployment situation is evidenced by this decrease in the actual number unemployed plus an increase in the civilian labor force and employment.

The civilian labor force is showing some seasonal month-to-month declines, but shows an excellent 15.2% growth since last November. The civilian labor force now numbers 52,300 slightly down from October's 52,600 but 6,900 above last November's 45,400 level. Employment shows an even better November to November increase of 7,300 and is now at 49,400, a slight drop from October's 49,800. The labor force statistics show an expanding Missoula LMA economy, with unemployment much closer to statewide averages than it has been in recent years.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Christmas season has brought the normal rush tc retail outlets, but overall retail trade is about normal for the time of year, with some businesses reporting excellent sales while negative reports are heard from other firms. The new regional shopping mall has been crowded and is having a definite impact on trade in the area. Hamilton merchants have also reported better business than last year, perhaps due to the early winter weather and poor driving conditions to larger trade centers. Recent establishment openings in Missoula have included a large grocery chain outlet, a tire shop, and an oriental restaurant.

Agricultural activity has been greatly slowed by the inclement weather although there has now been some demand for persons to help with feeding operations. Some potato sorting and shipping was occurring earlier, but has now ceased due to weather and market conditions.

Construction activity in the Missoula area is continuing, but reports show that the industry is working more on commerical projects than housing. The number of building permits issued in Novmeber is down slightly from last yaar, but the valuation has shown a sharp upward movement. The main impact was the permit for the construction of four buildings valued at $11.4 million at an area wood products plant. Another notable project is another major department store at the mall facility, while activity continues on several business establishments, motels, apartments, and single family housing units. The Hamilton area construction was highlighted by the award of an $80,000 contract for solar heating at the swimming pool.

Recent weeks have shown significant increases in layoffs and subsequent claims for unemployment insurance. The cold and snow has affected all outside work with construction and logging showing the greatest losses.

SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The Shelby-Cut Bank LMA, like others in the state, has slowed economic activity with approach of winter. The labor force currently numbers 16,400. October's count of individuals was at 16,800 and September had 18,800. Last year the labor force contained 16,200 which is 1.2% fewer persons. Employment figures showed contraction over the past three months; starting with September's tally of 17,900 it moved to 16,100 in October to our November count of 15,400 workers. The amount of job-holders one year ago was at 15,200.

The number of unemployed increased to 1,000 this month from 700 in October and 900 in September. There were 1,000 jobless persons last year at this month. The unemployment rate last year was at 6.4%, so the current November statistic compared favorably at 5.8%. Although October's rate calculated at 4.5% was much lower than the current percentage, it appears the unseasonably mild weather was the cause.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Most of the outdoor related activity has reached slower seasonal levels. Layoffs have occurred in the oilfield industry. Several oilrigs in the Whitlash area were not equipped for freezing temperatures and froze up under the winter conditions. Another crew of oil field workers were laid off due to a rig fire, the employer is trying to replace it at this time.

Outdoor construction has shut down, but indoor work is progressing on a senior citizens complex, civic center, shopping center, and several new homes. No new projects are planned, so demand should stay steady until their completion.

The retail sector has reported satisfaction with their sales so far and calls for sales personnel are good. Food service related and nursing staff are in short supply for the labor market area. Calls for truck drivers and material handlers were also active during the reporting period. The agricultural sector has picked up a few workers for winter preparation and supplemental feeding.

MANPOWER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

NOVEMBER 1978

Program	New Enrollees	Job Placements	End of Month Enrollment
WIN	237	85	2100
CETA-CEP	50	23	218
CETA-INST.	33	20	235
CETA-OJT	15	23	59
JOB CORPS	55	20	398
PSE TITLE II	12	9	187
PSE TITLE VI	52	40	562
PSE TITLE VI-A	51	26	386
CETA - AWE	48	10	87
STIP	0	0	22
HIRE II	20	9	103

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S.[1/]

(1967 = 100)

Group	OCTOBER 1978	*Percent Change From:* SEPTEMBER 1978	OCTOBER 1977
All Items	200.7	*.8*	*8.8*

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE UNEMPLOYED[2/]

NOVEMBER 1978

Social Characteristics	*Percent of Total Covered Unemployment*
Non-White	*8.8%*
Female	*34.9%*
Youth	*9.6%*
Over 45	*21.7%*

1/ The Consumer Price Index measures changes in prices of goods and services bought by urban wage earners and clerical workers, including families and single persons.

2/ Based on 20% sample of Continued Claims filed during the week including the 19th of each month in all local offices.

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table I

RESIDENCE DATA

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Disputes 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ Montana	Percent 1/ U. S.	
1976								
January	307.5	283.1	262.2	20.9	24.4	*7.9*	*8.8*	*
February	309.0	286.1	263.0	23.1	22.9	*7.4*	*8.7*	*
March	317.0	294.2	266.1	28.1	22.8	*7.2*	*8.1*	*
April	325.9	306.8	271.8	35.0	19.1	*5.9*	*7.4*	*
May	329.6	313.0	276.7	36.3	16.6	*5.0*	*6.7*	*
June	345.5	324.2	282.5	41.7	21.3	*6.2*	*8.0*	.1
July	354.4	334.8	289.9	44.9	19.6	*5.5*	*7.8*	.1
August	357.4	338.6	290.2	48.4	18.8	*5.3*	*7.6*	.1
September	344.7	327.9	289.9	38.0	16.8	*4.9*	*7.4*	.1
October	333.8	316.9	284.4	32.5	16.9	*5.1*	*7.2*	.1
November	331.2	311.8	283.6	28.2	19.4	*5.9*	*7.4*	.1
December	328.1	306.7	282.3	24.4	21.4	*6.5*	*7.4*	.1
1976 Avg.	332.0	312.0	278.6	33.4	20.0	*6.1*	*7.7*	.1
1977								
January	316.7	291.7	269.1	22.6	25.0	*7.9*	*8.3*	.1
February	320.3	294.9	270.1	24.8	25.4	*7.9*	*8.5*	.1
March	328.4	303.0	273.1	29.9	25.4	*7.7*	*7.9*	.1
April	336.5	313.9	276.9	37.0	22.6	*6.7*	*6.9*	.1
May	340.4	319.8	281.6	38.2	20.6	*6.1*	*6.4*	.1
June	356.1	333.6	290.1	43.5	22.5	*6.3*	*7.5*	.2
July	364.4	342.4	295.9	46.5	22.0	*6.0*	*7.0*	3.3
August	371.4	350.2	300.4	49.8	21.2	*5.7*	*6.8*	.2
September	355.7	336.3	297.5	38.8	19.4	*5.5*	*6.6*	.1
October	346.0	327.2	294.2	33.0	18.8	*5.4*	*6.3*	.5
November	342.1	321.7	293.3	28.4	20.4	*6.0*	*6.4*	.1
December	337.9	317.1	292.7	24.4	20.8	*6.1*	*6.0*	.2
1977 Avg.	343.0	321.0	286.3	34.7	22.0	*6.4*	*7.0*	.4
1978								
January	332.1	305.2	282.7	22.5	26.9	*8.1*	*7.0*	.2
February	341.3	311.3	286.8	24.5	30.0	*8.8*	*6.9*	.2
March	350.6	321.6	292.2	29.4	29.0	*8.3*	*6.6*	*
April	358.1	334.9	299.9	35.0	23.2	*6.5*	*5.8*	*
May	361.7	341.1	305.1	36.0	20.6	*5.7*	*5.5*	*
June	379.3	354.3	313.2	41.1	25.0	*6.6*	*6.2*	.4
July	381.2	358.8	314.8	44.0	22.4	*5.9*	*6.3*	.2
August	377.4	357.7	310.7	47.0	19.7	*5.2*	*5.8*	.1
September	375.9	358.7	321.9	36.8	17.2	*4.6*	*6.0*	.1
October	363.5	347.5	316.2	31.3	16.0	*4.4*	*5.4*	.1
November	360.8	342.2	315.3	26.9	18.6	*5.2*	*5.5*	.1
December	*357.0*	*338.4*	*313.3*	*23.1*	*20.6*	*5.8*		.1
Avg.	361.5	339.1	306.0	33.1	22.4	*6.2*		.1

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1970.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA

Table II

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1976								
January	29.5	27.2	26.4	.8	2.3	*7.9*	*7.9*	*
February	29.7	27.5	26.6	.9	2.2	*7.3*	*7.4*	*
March	30.8	28.5	27.4	1.1	2.3	*7.3*	*7.2*	*
April	30.8	28.9	27.5	1.4	1.9	*6.2*	*5.9*	*
May	31.1	29.3	27.9	1.4	1.8	*5.6*	*5.0*	*
June	32.4	30.0	28.4	1.6	2.4	*7.5*	*6.2*	*
July	32.6	30.5	28.7	1.8	2.1	*6.6*	*5.5*	*
August	32.8	30.8	28.9	1.9	2.0	*6.0*	*5.3*	*
September	31.8	30.1	28.6	1.5	1.7	*5.3*	*4.9*	*
October	31.9	30.1	28.8	1.3	1.8	*5.6*	*5.1*	*
November	32.0	30.1	29.0	1.1	1.9	*6.0*	*5.9*	*
December	30.2	28.3	27.3	1.0	1.9	*6.3*	*6.5*	*
1976 Avg.	31.3	29.3	28.0	1.3	2.0	*6.5*	*6.1*	*
1977								
January	31.8	29.7	28.8	.9	2.1	*6.6*	*7.9*	*
February	32.9	30.9	29.9	1.0	2.0	*6.1*	*7.9*	*
March	33.5	31.3	30.1	1.2	2.2	*6.5*	*7.7*	*
April	34.5	32.6	31.1	1.5	1.9	*5.4*	*6.7*	*
May	34.7	32.8	31.3	1.5	1.9	*5.5*	*6.1*	*
June	36.0	33.9	32.2	1.7	2.1	*5.9*	*6.3*	*
July	35.8	33.8	32.0	1.8	2.0	*5.6*	*6.0*	.8
August	36.4	34.2	32.2	2.0	2.2	*6.1*	*5.7*	*
September	35.6	33.4	31.9	1.5	2.2	*6.2*	*5.5*	*
October	36.0	33.8	32.5	1.3	2.2	*6.1*	*5.4*	.4
November	35.4	33.4	32.3	1.1	2.0	*5.7*	*6.0*	*
December	35.0	32.8	31.8	1.0	2.2	*6.2*	*6.1*	*
1977 Avg.	34.8	32.7	31.3	1.4	2.1	*6.0*	*6.4*	.1
1978								
January	35.3	32.6	31.7	.9	2.7	*7.8*	*8.1*	*
February	36.2	32.8	31.8	1.0	3.4	*9.3*	*8.8*	*
March	35.3	32.4	31.2	1.2	2.9	*8.0*	*8.3*	*
April	35.0	32.9	31.5	1.4	2.1	*6.1*	*6.5*	*
May	35.1	33.0	31.6	1.4	2.1	*6.0*	*5.7*	*
June	36.4	33.5	31.9	1.6	2.9	*7.9*	*6.6*	*
July	35.1	32.7	31.0	1.7	2.4	*6.9*	*5.9*	*
August	34.2	32.0	30.1	1.9	2.2	*6.5*	*5.2*	*
September	35.9	33.8	32.3	1.5	2.1	*6.0*	*4.6*	*
October	35.1	33.2	32.0	1.2	1.9	*5.5*	*4.4*	*
November	35.4	33.1	32.0	1.1	2.3	*6.6*	**5.2**	*
December	*34.7*	*32.2*	*31.3*	*.9*	*2.5*	*7.2*	*5.8*	*
Avg.	35.3	32.8	31.5	1.3	2.5	*7.1*	*6.2*	*

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table III

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

RESIDENCE DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1] County	Percent[1] State	
1976								
January	44.6	41.8	40.8	1.0	2.8	*6.2*	*7.9*	*
February	44.7	42.3	41.2	1.1	2.4	*5.4*	*7.4*	*
March	45.3	42.8	41.5	1.3	2.5	*5.6*	*7.2*	*
April	47.1	45.0	43.4	1.6	2.1	*4.5*	*5.9*	*
May	46.6	44.9	43.2	1.7	1.7	*3.7*	*5.0*	*
June	48.6	46.0	44.1	1.9	2.6	*5.4*	*6.2*	*
July	49.4	47.0	44.9	2.1	2.4	*4.8*	*5.5*	*
August	49.0	46.8	44.6	2.2	2.2	*4.4*	*5.3*	*
September	49.6	47.7	46.0	1.7	1.9	*3.9*	*4.9*	*
October	48.9	47.0	45.5	1.5	1.9	*3.9*	*5.1*	*
November	49.0	46.9	45.6	1.3	2.1	*4.3*	*5.9*	*
December	49.4	46.9	45.8	1.1	2.5	*5.0*	*6.5*	*
1976 Avg.	47.7	45.4	43.9	1.5	2.3	*4.8*	*6.1*	*
1977								
January	48.9	46.3	45.3	1.0	2.6	*5.4*	*7.9*	*
February	50.6	47.8	46.7	1.1	2.8	*5.5*	*7.9*	*
March	51.2	48.5	47.1	1.4	2.7	*5.2*	*7.7*	*
April	52.1	49.8	48.1	1.7	2.3	*4.4*	*6.7*	*
May	52.0	49.7	47.9	1.8	2.3	*4.5*	*6.1*	*
June	52.7	50.4	48.4	2.0	2.3	*4.4*	*6.3*	*
July	53.1	50.9	48.8	2.1	2.2	*4.1*	*6.0*	.1
August	54.3	51.9	49.6	2.3	2.4	*4.4*	*5.7*	.1
September	53.9	51.5	49.7	1.8	2.4	*4.4*	*5.5*	.1
October	53.6	51.3	49.8	1.5	2.3	*4.3*	*5.4*	.1
November	53.8	51.5	50.2	1.3	2.3	*4.2*	*6.0*	.1
December	52.9	50.6	49.5	1.1	2.3	*4.3*	*6.1*	.1
1977 Avg.	52.4	50.0	48.4	1.6	2.4	*4.6*	*6.4*	*
1978								
January	51.9	48.8	47.8	1.0	3.1	*6.0*	*8.1*	.1
February	53.8	50.2	49.1	1.1	3.6	*6.7*	*8.8*	.1
March	52.6	49.1	47.8	1.3	3.5	*6.7*	*8.3*	*
April	52.7	50.3	48.7	1.6	2.4	*4.6*	*6.5*	*
May	52.6	50.3	48.6	1.7	2.3	*4.3*	*5.7*	*
June	52.6	49.8	47.9	1.9	2.8	*5.2*	*6.6*	*
July	52.2	49.8	47.8	2.0	2.4	*4.5*	*5.9*	*
August	51.0	48.8	46.6	2.2	2.2	*4.2*	*5.2*	*
September	54.3	52.3	50.6	1.7	2.0	*3.6*	*4.6*	*
October	53.3	51.7	50.3	1.4	1.6	*3.0*	*4.4*	*
November	54.0	51.7	50.5	1.2	2.3	*4.2*	*5.2*	*
December	*53.1*	*50.8*	*49.7*	*1.1*	*2.3*	*4.3*	*5.8*	*
Avg.	52.8	50.3	48.8	1.5	2.5	*4.7*	*6.2*	*

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1970.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table IV

MONTANA

Statewide Employment by Industry
December 1978

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Nov. 1978	Oct. 1978	Nov. 1977	Net Changes to Current Month from: Nov. 1978	Net Changes to Current Month from: Oct. 1977
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1/]	360.8	363.5	342.1	-2.7	18.7
EMPLOYED PERSONS	342.2	347.5	321.7	-5.3	20.5
Persons Employed in Agriculture	26.9	31.3	28.4	-4.4	-1.5
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	18.6	16.0	20.4	2.6	-1.8
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2/]	*5.2*	*4.4*	*6.0*	*.8*	*-.8*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2/]	*5.3*	*5.2*	*6.1*	*.1*	*-.8*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*280.7*	*281.6*	*269.4*	*-.9*	*11.3*
MANUFACTURING	*27.0*	*27.2*	*25.8*	*-.2*	*1.2*
Durable Goods	*17.9*	*17.9*	*16.8*	*0*	*1.1*
24 Lumber and Wood Products	*10.9*	*11.0*	*10.1*	*-.1*	*.8*
33 Primary Metal Industries	*3.4*	*3.3*	*3.3*	*.1*	*.1*
Other Durable Goods	*3.6*	*3.6*	*3.4*	*0*	*.2*
Nondurable Goods	*9.1*	*9.3*	*9.0*	*-.2*	*.1*
20 Food and Kindred Products	*4.1*	*4.3*	*4.2*	*-.2*	*-.1*
27 Printing and Publishing	*2.3*	*2.3*	*2.2*	*0*	*.1*
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	*1.1*	*1.2*	*1.1*	*-.1*	*0*
Other Nondurable Goods	*1.6*	*1.5*	*1.5*	*.1*	*.1*
MINING	*7.3*	*7.3*	*6.3*	*0*	*1.0*
10 Metal Mining	*2.3*	*2.2*	*2.0*	*.1*	*.3*
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	*2.1*	*2.2*	*1.8*	*-.1*	*.3*
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	*2.9*	*2.9*	*2.5*	*0*	*.4*
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	*17.1*	*18.5*	*16.7*	*-1.4*	*.4*
15 General Building Contractors	*5.7*	*5.9*	*5.4*	*-.2*	*.3*
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	*4.7*	*5.8*	*4.9*	*-1.1*	*-.2*
17 Special Trade Contractors	*6.7*	*6.8*	*6.4*	*-.1*	*.3*
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	*22.7*	*22.7*	*20.5*	*0*	*2.2*
40 Railroad Transportation	*7.4*	*7.4*	*6.3*	*0*	*1.1*
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	*7.0*	*7.0*	*6.5*	*0*	*.5*
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	*8.3*	*8.3*	*7.7*	*0*	*.6*
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	*72.2*	*72.3*	*68.1*	*-.1*	*4.1*
Wholesale Trade	*16.2*	*16.3*	*16.0*	*-.1*	*.2*
Retail Trade	*56.0*	*56.0*	*52.1*	*0*	*3.9*
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	*9.0*	*8.8*	*8.4*	*.2*	*.6*
54 Food Stores	*7.6*	*7.6*	*7.1*	*0*	*.5*
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	*8.6*	*8.6*	*8.4*	*0*	*.2*
58 Eating and Drinking Places	*20.1*	*20.3*	*18.1*	*-.2*	*2.0*
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	*10.7*	*10.7*	*10.1*	*0*	*.6*
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	*12.3*	*12.3*	*11.4*	*0*	*.9*
SERVICES	*51.5*	*52.1*	*49.0*	*-.6*	*2.5*
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	*6.2*	*6.6*	*5.6*	*-.4*	*.6*
72 Personal Services	*2.6*	*2.6*	*2.5*	*0*	*.1*
80 Medical and other Health Services	*17.1*	*17.1*	*16.0*	*0*	*1.1*
Other Services	*25.6*	*25.8*	*24.9*	*-.2*	*.7*
GOVERNMENT	*70.6*	*69.2*	*71.6*	*1.4*	*-1.0*
91 Federal Government	*12.7*	*12.9*	*13.5*	*-.2*	*-.8*
92 State Colleges and Universities	*8.5*	*8.5*	*9.0*	*0*	*-.5*
92 Other State Government	*10.7*	*10.7*	*10.4*	*0*	*.3*
93 Local Education	*24.2*	*23.5*	*25.0*	*.7*	*-.8*
93 Other Local Government	*14.5*	*13.6*	*13.7*	*.9*	*.8*

1/ *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1976 Benchmarks.*
2/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table V

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

November 1978

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Nov. 1978	Oct. 1978	Nov. 1977	Net Changes to Current Month from: Oct. 1978	Nov. 1977
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1/]	35.4	35.1	35.4	*.3*	*0*
EMPLOYED PERSONS	33.1	33.2	33.4	*-.1*	*-.3*
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.1	1.2	1.1	*-.1*	*0*
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.3	1.9	2.0	*.4*	*.3*
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2/]	*6.6*	*5.5*	*5.7*	*1.1*	*.9*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2/]	*6.8*	*5.9*	*5.9*	*.9*	*.9*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*31.0*	*30.9*	*29.7*	*.1*	*1.3*
Manufacturing	*2.1*	*2.0*	*1.8*	*.1*	*.3*
Contract Construction	*1.9*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*-.1*	*-.1*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.8*	*0*	*.1*
Trade	*10.2*	*10.2*	*9.8*	*0*	*.4*
Wholesale Trade	*2.7*	*2.6*	*2.6*	*.1*	*.1*
Retail Trade	*7.5*	*7.6*	*7.2*	*-.1*	*.3*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*2.0*	*2.0*	*1.9*	*0*	*.1*
Services and Mining	*6.7*	*6.6*	*6.2*	*.1*	*.5*
Government	*6.2*	*6.2*	*6.2*	*0*	*0*
Federal Government	*2.0*	*2.0*	*1.9*	*0*	*.1*
State and Local Government	*4.2*	*4.2*	*4.3*	*0*	*-.1*

1/ *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

2/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

Current month preliminary.

Revised to 1976 Benchmarks.

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table VI

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

November 1978

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Nov. 1978	Oct. 1978	Nov. 1977	Net Changes to Current Month from: Oct. 1978	Nov. 1977
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	54.0	53.3	53.8	.7	.2
EMPLOYED PERSONS	51.7	51.7	51.5	0	.2
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.2	1.4	1.3	-.2	-.1
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.3	1.6	2.3	.7	0
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*4.2*	*3.0*	*4.2*	*1.2*	*0*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*4.6*	*3.6*	*4.6*	*1.0*	*0*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*46.2*	*46.1*	*44.7*	*.1*	*1.5*
Manufacturing	*4.2*	*4.2*	*4.3*	*0*	*-.1*
Contract Construction	*2.5*	*2.6*	*2.5*	*-.1*	*0*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*4.4*	*4.3*	*4.0*	*.1*	*.4*
Trade	*15.7*	*15.7*	*14.8*	*0*	*.9*
Wholesale Trade	*5.3*	*5.3*	*5.0*	*0*	*.3*
Retail Trade	*10.4*	*10.4*	*9.8*	*0*	*.6*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*2.2*	*2.1*	*2.1*	*.1*	*.1*
Services and Mining	*9.4*	*9.4*	*8.9*	*0*	*.5*
Government	*7.8*	*7.8*	*8.1*	*0*	*-.3*
Federal Government	*1.4*	*1.4*	*1.4*	*0*	*0*
State and Local Government	*6.4*	*6.4*	*6.7*	*0*	*-.3*

1/ *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

2/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

Current month preliminary. *Revised to 197 Benchmarks.*

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Sept. 1978	Oct. 1978	Nov. 1978	Sept. 1978	Oct. 1978	Nov. 1978	Sept. 1978	Oct. 1978	Nov. 1978	Sept. 1978	Oct. 1978	Nov. 1978
STATEWIDE	375.9	363.5	360.8	358.7	347.5	342.2	17.2	16.0	18.6	*4.6*	*4.4*	*5.2*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	35.9	35.1	35.4	33.8	33.2	33.1	2.1	1.9	2.3	*6.0*	*5.5*	*6.6*
BILLINGS SMSA	54.3	53.3	54.0	52.3	51.7	51.7	2.0	1.6	2.3	*3.6*	*3.0*	*4.2*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	285.7	275.1	271.4	272.6	262.6	257.4	13.1	12.5	14.0	*4.6*	*4.6*	*5.2*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	36.9	35.2	34.7	34.6	33.2	32.6	2.3	2.0	2.1	*6.1*	*5.7*	*6.1*
BOZEMAN	29.4	29.1	28.8	28.5	28.1	27.7	.9	1.0	1.1	*2.9*	*3.3*	*3.9*
GLASGOW	16.8	15.8	15.3	16.2	15.2	14.7	.6	.6	.6	*3.7*	*3.8*	*4.0*
GLENDIVE	14.8	14.2	13.8	14.5	13.9	13.4	.3	.3	.4	*2.3*	*2.0*	*2.7*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	12.5	11.7	11.4	12.1	11.3	10.9	.4	.4	.6	*3.2*	*3.6*	*5.0*
HAVRE	12.7	12.0	11.8	12.3	11.6	11.3	.4	.4	.5	*3.6*	*3.5*	*4.4*
HELENA	27.5	26.7	26.9	26.3	25.5	25.5	1.2	1.2	1.4	*4.3*	*4.4*	*5.4*
KALISPELL	37.7	36.5	36.0	35.3	34.2	33.7	2.4	2.3	2.3	*6.4*	*6.3*	*6.5*
LEWISTOWN	10.5	10.0	9.7	10.2	9.6	9.3	.3	.4	.4	*3.3*	*3.7*	*4.6*
MILES CITY	15.0	14.4	14.1	14.4	13.9	13.5	.6	.5	.6	*3.7*	*3.3*	*4.4*
MISSOULA	53.0	52.6	52.3	50.3	49.8	49.4	2.7	2.8	2.9	*5.2*	*5.3*	*5.5*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	18.8	16.8	16.4	17.9	16.1	15.4	.9	.7	1.0	*4.8*	*4.5*	*5.8*

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

Totals may not add due to rounding.

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Nov. 1978	Nov. 1977	Percent Change 1977-1978	Nov. 1978	Nov. 1977	Percent Change 1977-1978	Nov. 1978	Nov. 1977	Net Change 1977-1978	Nov. 1978	Nov. 1977	Net Change 1977-1978
STATEWIDE	360.8	342.1	*5.5*	342.2	321.7	*6.4*	18.6	20.4	*-1.8*	*5.2*	*6.0*	*-.8*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	35.4	35.4	*0*	33.1	33.4	*-.9*	2.3	2.0	*.3*	*6.6*	*5.7*	*.9*
BILLINGS SMSA	54.0	53.8	*.4*	51.7	51.5	*.4*	2.3	2.3	*0*	*4.2*	*4.2*	*0*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	271.4	252.9	*7.3*	257.4	236.8	*8.7*	14.0	16.1	*-2.1*	*5.2*	*6.4*	*-1.2*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	34.7	32.7	*6.1*	32.6	30.3	*7.6*	2.1	2.4	*-.3*	*6.1*	*7.4*	*-1.3*
BOZEMAN	28.8	23.7	*21.5*	27.7	22.4	*23.7*	1.1	1.3	*-.2*	*3.9*	*5.6*	*-1.7*
GLASGOW	15.3	16.1	*-5.0*	14.7	15.2	*-3.3*	.6	.9	*-.3*	*4.0*	*5.8*	*-1.8*
GLENDIVE	13.8	14.0	*-1.4*	13.4	13.6	*-1.5*	.4	.4	*0*	*2.7*	*3.2*	*-.5*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	11.4	11.2	*1.8*	10.9	10.5	*3.8*	.6	.7	*-.1*	*5.0*	*6.0*	*-1.0*
HAVRE	11.8	12.7	*-7.1*	11.3	12.2	*-7.4*	.5	.5	*0*	*4.4*	*3.9*	*.5*
HELENA	26.9	25.0	*7.6*	25.5	23.5	*8.5*	1.4	1.5	*-.1*	*5.4*	*5.8*	*-.4*
KALISPELL	36.0	31.4	*14.6*	33.7	28.5	*18.2*	2.3	2.9	*-.6*	*6.5*	*9.1*	*-2.6*
LEWISTOWN	9.7	10.0	*-.3*	9.3	9.5	*-2.1*	.4	.5	*-.1*	*4.6*	*4.5*	*.1*
MILES CITY	14.1	14.5	*-2.8*	13.5	13.8	*-2.2*	.6	.7	*-.1*	*4.4*	*5.0*	*-.6*
MISSOULA	52.3	45.4	*15.2*	49.4	42.1	*17.3*	2.9	3.3	*-.4*	*5.5*	*7.2*	*-1.7*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.4	16.2	*1.2*	15.4	15.2	*1.3*	1.0	1.0	*0*	*5.8*	*6.4*	*-.6*

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
Totals may not add due to rounding.

TABLE IX A

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA
NOVEMBER 1978

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	360774	342178	18596	5.2
CASCADE	35468	33144	2324	6.6
YELLOWSTONE	53951	51669	2282	4.2
BEAVERHEAD	4143	4030	113	2.7
BIG HORN	5094	4820	274	5.4
BLAINE	2697	2529	168	6.2
BROADWATER	1426	1383	43	3.0
CARBON	3098	2912	186	6.0
CARTER	887	829	58	6.5
CHOUTEAU	2620	2499	121	4.6
CUSTER	5734	5531	203	3.5
DANIELS	1315	1294	21	1.6
DAWSON	5280	5108	172	3.3
DEER LODGE	6038	5692	346	5.7
FALLON	2087	2003	84	4.0
FERGUS	5030	4799	231	4.6
FLATHEAD	20979	19689	1290	6.1
GALLATIN	21780	20993	787	3.6
GARFIELD	765	733	32	4.2
GLACIER	5269	4769	500	9.5
GOLDEN VALLEY	398	383	15	3.8
GRANITE	1400	1300	100	7.1
HILL	8092	7779	313	3.9
JEFFERSON	2171	2026	145	6.7
JUDITH BASIN	1106	1019	87	7.9
LAKE	7981	7515	466	5.8
LEWIS AND CLARK	23336	22067	1269	5.4
LIBERTY	978	943	35	3.6
LINCOLN	7099	6507	592	8.3
MC CONE	1168	1145	23	2.0
MADISON	2390	2239	151	6.3
MEAGHER	949	914	35	3.7
MINERAL	1535	1428	107	7.0
MISSOULA	39633	37699	1934	4.9
MUSSELSHELL	1624	1553	71	4.4
PARK	6102	5811	291	4.8
PETROLEUM	276	270	6	2.2
PHILLIPS	2483	2384	99	4.0
PONDERA	3275	3132	143	4.4
POWDER RIVER	973	933	40	4.1
POWELL	3562	3373	189	5.3
PRAIRIE	854	824	30	3.5
RAVALLI	7446	6856	590	7.9
RICHLAND	5099	4991	108	2.1
ROOSEVELT	4730	4501	229	4.8
ROSEBUD	4016	3788	228	5.7
SANDERS	3648	3425	223	6.1
SHERIDAN	2326	2287	39	1.7
SILVER BOW	17195	15971	1224	7.1
STILLWATER	1785	1701	84	4.7
SWEET GRASS	1458	1434	24	1.6
TETON	2489	2379	110	4.4
TOOLE	2702	2625	77	2.8
TREASURE	424	413	11	2.6
VALLEY	4505	4278	227	5.0
WHEATLAND	1306	1267	39	3.0
WIBAUX	599	592	7	1.2

TABLE IX B

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA
OCTOBER 1978

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	363499	347458	16041	4.4
CASCADE	35164	33232	1932	5.5
YELLOWSTONE	53313	51722	1591	3.0
BEAVERHEAD	4237	4148	89	2.1
BIG HORN	5215	4956	259	5.0
BLAINE	2799	2640	159	5.7
BROADWATER	1474	1428	46	3.1
CARBON	3177	3075	102	3.2
CARTER	983	927	56	5.7
CHOUTEAU	2737	2661	76	2.8
CUSTER	5764	5615	149	2.6
DANIELS	1371	1350	21	1.5
DAWSON	5348	5200	148	2.8
DEER LODGE	6278	5849	429	6.8
FALLON	2105	2057	48	2.3
FERGUS	5078	4916	162	3.2
FLATHEAD	21167	19783	1384	6.5
GALLATIN	21849	21198	651	3.0
GARFIELD	850	831	19	2.2
GLACIER	5562	5097	465	8.4
GOLDEN VALLEY	420	410	10	2.4
GRANITE	1442	1373	69	4.8
HILL	8195	7966	229	2.8
JEFFERSON	2195	2022	173	7.9
JUDITH BASIN	1211	1103	108	8.9
LAKE	8131	7764	367	4.5
LEWIS AND CLARK	23033	22075	958	4.2
LIBERTY	1048	1018	30	2.9
LINCOLN	7186	6654	532	7.4
MC CONE	1261	1236	25	2.0
MADISON	2413	2360	53	2.2
MEAGHER	1001	959	42	4.2
MINERAL	1569	1477	92	5.9
MISSOULA	39632	37698	1934	4.9
MUSSELSHELL	1624	1572	52	3.2
PARK	6177	5910	267	4.3
PETROLEUM	298	295	3	1.0
PHILLIPS	2620	2492	128	4.9
PONDERA	3326	3247	79	2.4
POWDER RIVER	1050	1025	25	2.4
POWELL	3516	3360	156	4.4
PRAIRIE	983	977	6	.6
RAVALLI	7649	7149	500	6.5
RICHLAND	5093	5015	78	1.5
ROOSEVELT	4798	4595	203	4.2
ROSEBUD	4085	3905	180	4.4
SANDERS	3780	3532	248	6.6
SHERIDAN	2420	2382	38	1.6
SILVER BOW	17285	16085	1200	6.9
STILLWATER	1799	1755	44	2.4
SWEET GRASS	1524	1509	15	1.0
TETON	2571	2491	80	3.1
TOOLE	2641	2583	58	2.2
TREASURE	451	433	18	4.0
VALLEY	4620	4415	205	4.4
WHEATLAND	1356	1319	37	2.7
WIBAUX	625	612	13	2.1

TABLE X

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

November 1978

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT					TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
	Nov. 1978 1/	Oct. 1978	Nov. 1977	Net Change to Current Month From: Oct. 1978	Net Change to Current Month From: Nov. 1977	Total	Percent Women	Total	Percent Women
						Nov. 1978		Oct. 1978	
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers .	122.3	122.2	113.2	.1	9.1	280.7	43.6	281.6	43.4
Manufacturing	3.1	3.3	3.1	-.2	0	27.0	11.5	27.2	12.1
Mining	.4	.4	.3	0	.1	7.3	5.5	7.3	5.5
Contract Construction	1.3	1.4	.8	-.1	.5	17.1	7.6	18.5	7.6
Transportation & Public Utilities .	4.2	4.2	3.8	0	.4	22.7	18.5	22.7	18.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	35.2	35.3	31.5	-.1	3.7	72.2	48.8	72.3	48.8
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate ..	8.0	7.9	7.2	.1	.8	12.3	65.0	12.3	64.2
Services	34.3	34.1	32.3	.2	2.0	51.5	66.6	52.1	65.4
Government 2/	35.8	35.6	34.2	.2	1.6	70.6	50.7	69.2	51.4

1/ *Current month preliminary.* *Revised to 1976 Benchmark.* *Establishment Series began January 1974.*

2/ *Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.*

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE XI

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

1977

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	103.2	103.8	105.8	107.7	107.3	111.4	108.9	112.5	115.6	112.4	113.2	114.6	109.7
Manufacturing	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.4	3.1	3.0	3.1
Mining	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3
Contract Construction.....	.8	.8	.7	.8	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.0	.8	1.1	1.0
Transport. & Public Utilities.	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	26.8	26.7	28.0	29.3	29.7	31.4	30.3	30.6	31.2	31.0	31.5	31.9	29.8
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate..	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.8	7.1	7.2	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.1
Services	30.5	30.7	31.1	32.2	32.0	33.1	32.3	32.9	33.7	31.2	32.3	32.9	32.1
Government1/	31.3	31.8	32.3	31.9	30.6	31.4	30.8	32.9	34.7	34.4	34.2	34.3	32.6

1978

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	114.7	115.1	116.9	119.5	120.8	123.8	121.3	122.1	120.5	122.2	122.3
Manufacturing	2.9	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.1
Mining.....	.3	.3	.3	.3	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4
Contract Construction	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3
Transport. & Public Utilities.	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	30.7	30.5	31.2	32.2	33.2	33.7	32.9	35.3	35.5	35.3	35.2
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate..	7.4	7.7	7.9	8.0	8.0	8.2	8.3	8.4	7.9	7.9	8.0
Services.....	33.8	34.0	33.4	35.2	35.4	37.6	36.6	34.0	34.3	34.1	34.3
Government1/.....	34.9	35.3	35.5	35.7	35.8	35.6	34.6	35.4	33.7	35.6	35.8

1/ *Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged. Establishment Series began January, 1974. Revised to 1977 Benchmark.*

Prepared by Montana Employment Security Division in cooperation with U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS*

Composite Index of
SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS
1972 = 100

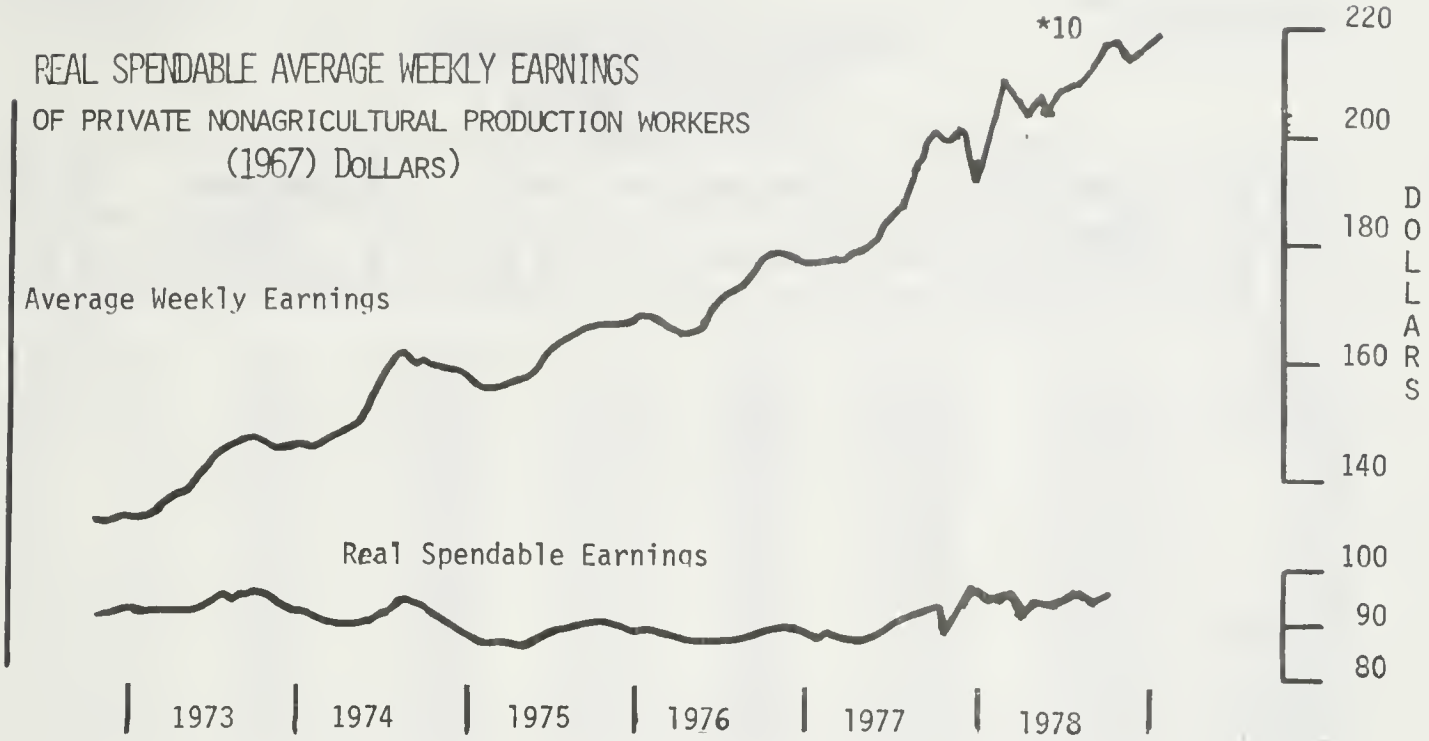
1977	
January	98.2
February	99.2
March	99.0
April	99.1
May	97.1
June	97.5
July	95.8
August	97.1
September	98.1
October	98.1
November	98.0
December	98.5
1978	
January	100.1
February	100.2
March	103.1
April	103.8
May	102.4
June	101.7
July	101.3
August	101.8
September	102.6
October	103.5
November	
December	

MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

The composite index of leading indicators advanced upward again in October as it reached a 103.5 level from September's 102.6. The index has been climbing steadily since the July low point but the increase has not been either substantial enough or of a long enough duration to be a basis for any prediction. The composite index's movement during the last two months of 1978 might finally give some sign of direction to the Montana economy. Of the component indicators, building permits, initial claims, and layoffs showed positive movement in October but the on set of winter weather in November and December may alter the direction of these indicators, and subsequently that of the composite.

* *Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits, and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.*

** *Indicates last month of plotted data.*



	OCT. 1978	SEPT. 1978	OCT. 1977
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	218.40	215.27	202.65
Taxes Withheld	35.46	34.46	30.54
Spendable Earnings	182.94	180.81	172.15
Adjustment for Price Changes Since 1967	91.79	90.00	78.86
Real Spendable Earnings in 1967 Dollars	91.15	90.81	93.29

	Average Weekly Earnings	Real Spendable Earnings
1977		
July	190.97	89.63
Aug.	200.28	92.96
Sep.	197.89	91.67
Oct.	202.65	93.29
Nov.	190.85	88.23
Dec.	210.37	95.44
1978		
Jan.	205.19	92.67
Feb.	209.10	93.63
Mar.	203.28	90.71
Apr.	207.77	91.58
May	208.58	91.04
June	216.58	93.03
July	217.49	92.67
Aug.	214.68	91.19
Sep.	215.27	90.81
Oct.	218.40	91,15
Nov.		
Dec.		

REAL SPENDABLE EARNINGS

Gross wages took a jump upward during November but very little of the increase shows up in the Real Spendable wages. The $3.13 increase in the Gross Wage figure yielded only $.34 in increased Real Spendable wages after taxes and inflation were considered. The C.P.I. continued to rise and has now passed the 200 level at 200.7 for November with little relief from inflation in sight.

Again, the comparison to last November's statistics is even more revealing. Gross wages are up by $15.75 but inflation has actually cut Real Spendable wages by $2.14 in the past twelve months. A concentrated effort to reduce the rate of inflation is not just desirable, it is indeed becoming a necessity to many groups in the population.

** Indicates last month of plotted data.* *p: Preliminary*

1/ Average weekly earnings of total private nonagricultural production workers.

2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ Montana	Percent 1/ U. S.	
1976								
January	327.7	307.2	275.1	32.1	20.5	6.3	7.8	*
February	328.3	308.8	275.6	33.2	19.5	5.9	7.6	*
March	328.3	308.3	275.2	33.1	20.0	6.1	7.5	*
April	330.0	311.1	276.8	34.3	18.9	5.7	7.5	*
May	329.4	310.3	277.1	33.2	19.1	5.8	7.3	*
June	326.4	306.8	273.4	33.4	19.6	6.0	7.5	.1
July	334.2	313.9	279.4	34.5	20.3	6.1	7.8	.1
August	333.9	313.2	279.3	33.9	20.7	6.2	7.9	.1
September	335.6	315.5	282.2	33.3	20.1	6.0	7.8	.1
October	335.0	315.1	281.9	33.2	19.9	5.9	7.9	.1
November	337.2	317.0	283.8	33.2	20.2	6.0	8.1	.1
December	337.0	315.9	282.3	33.6	21.1	6.3	7.8	.1
1976 Avg.	332.0	312.0	278.6	33.4	20.0	6.1	7.7	.1
1977								
January	337.1	315.9	282.2	33.7	21.2	6.3	7.4	.1
February	339.9	317.9	283.0	34.9	22.0	6.5	7.6	.1
March	340.0	317.5	282.4	35.1	22.5	6.6	7.4	.1
April	340.6	318.3	281.9	36.4	22.3	6.6	7.1	.1
May	340.5	317.4	282.3	35.1	23.1	6.8	7.1	.1
June	337.2	316.4	281.0	35.4	20.8	6.2	7.1	.2
July	344.4	321.7	285.5	36.2	22.7	6.6	6.9	3.3
August	347.9	324.8	289.4	35.4	23.1	6.6	7.0	.2
September	346.6	323.8	289.5	34.3	22.8	6.6	6.8	.1
October	347.2	325.3	291.6	33.7	21.9	6.3	6.8	.5
November	347.6	326.4	293.2	33.2	21.2	6.1	6.7	.1
December	346.5	326.0	292.5	33.5	20.5	5.9	6.4	.2
1977 Avg.	343.0	321.0	286.3	34.7	22.0	6.4	7.0	.4
1978								
January	352.6	329.4	295.8	33.6	23.2	6.6	6.3	.2
February	361.3	334.6	299.9	34.7	26.7	7.4	6.1	.2
March	362.4	336.2	301.6	34.6	26.2	7.2	6.2	*
April	362.3	339.4	305.1	34.3	22.9	6.3	6.0	*
May	361.9	338.9	305.9	33.0	23.0	6.4	6.1	*
June	360.3	337.1	304.0	33.1	23.2	6.4	5.7	.4
July	361.3	338.2	304.6	33.6	23.1	6.4	6.2	.2
August	353.9	332.3	299.7	32.6	21.6	6.1	5.9	.1
September	366.9	346.3	314.1	32.2	20.6	5.6	6.0	.1
October	364.6	345.5	313.6	31.9	19.1	5.2	5.8	.1
November	366.4	347.0	315.3	31.7	19.4	5.3	5.8	.1
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970. Revised to 1977 Benchmarks. Current month preliminary

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XIII

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1976								
January	30.7	28.6	27.3	1.3	2.1	6.9	6.3	*
February	31.2	29.2	27.9	1.3	2.0	6.5	5.9	*
March	31.3	29.2	27.9	1.3	2.1	6.7	6.1	*
April	30.8	28.8	27.4	1.4	2.0	6.5	5.7	*
May	30.9	29.0	27.7	1.3	1.9	6.2	5.8	*
June	31.0	28.9	27.6	1.3	2.1	6.8	6.0	*
July	31.6	29.5	28.1	1.4	2.1	6.7	6.1	*
August	31.7	29.6	28.2	1.4	2.1	6.5	6.2	*
September	31.6	29.7	28.4	1.3	1.9	6.1	6.0	*
October	31.7	29.8	28.5	1.3	1.9	6.1	5.9	*
November	32.2	30.2	28.9	1.3	2.0	6.2	6.0	*
December	30.8	28.9	27.6	1.3	1.9	6.3	6.3	*
1976 Avg.	31.3	29.3	28.0	1.3	2.0	6.5	6.1	*
1977								
January	33.0	31.1	29.7	1.4	1.9	5.8	6.3	*
February	34.4	32.5	31.1	1.4	1.9	5.5	6.5	*
March	34.0	32.0	30.6	1.4	2.0	5.9	6.6	*
April	34.4	32.5	31.0	1.5	1.9	5.7	6.6	*
May	34.5	32.4	31.0	1.4	2.1	6.1	6.8	*
June	34.6	32.8	31.4	1.4	1.8	5.1	6.2	*
July	34.9	32.9	31.5	1.4	2.0	5.6	6.6	.8
August	35.4	33.1	31.7	1.4	2.3	6.5	6.6	*
September	35.4	32.9	31.5	1.4	2.5	7.0	6.6	*
October	35.9	33.6	32.3	1.3	2.3	6.5	6.3	.4
November	35.5	33.4	32.1	1.3	2.1	5.9	6.1	*
December	35.6	33.4	32.1	1.3	2.2	6.2	5.9	*
1977 Avg.	34.8	32.7	31.3	1.4	2.1	6.0	6.4	.1
1978								
January	36.5	33.9	32.5	1.4	2.6	7.0	6.6	*
February	37.8	34.5	33.1	1.4	3.3	8.7	7.4	*
March	35.7	33.1	31.7	1.4	2.6	7.4	7.2	*
April	35.0	32.8	31.4	1.4	2.2	6.3	6.3	*
May	35.0	32.7	31.4	1.3	2.3	6.6	6.4	*
June	34.9	32.4	31.1	1.3	2.5	7.3	6.4	*
July	34.1	31.7	30.4	1.3	2.4	6.9	6.4	*
August	33.1	30.8	29.5	1.3	2.3	6.9	6.1	*
September	35.7	33.3	32.0	1.3	2.4	6.7	5.6	*
October	35.0	32.9	31.7	1.2	2.1	5.9	5.2	*
November	35.6	33.2	32.0	1.2	2.4	6.8	5.3	*
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*
* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XIV

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1976								
January	46.0	43.6	42.2	1.4	2.4	5.2	6.3	*
February	46.4	44.3	42.8	1.5	2.1	4.6	5.9	*
March	46.5	44.3	42.8	1.5	2.2	4.8	6.1	*
April	47.2	45.0	43.4	1.6	2.2	4.7	5.7	*
May	46.8	44.6	43.1	1.5	2.2	4.6	5.8	*
June	47.0	44.7	43.1	1.6	2.3	4.8	6.0	*
July	48.0	45.7	44.1	1.6	2.3	4.8	6.1	*
August	47.9	45.6	44.0	1.6	2.3	4.8	6.2	*
September	49.3	47.1	45.6	1.5	2.2	4.4	6.0	*
October	48.6	46.4	44.9	1.5	2.2	4.6	5.9	*
November	48.9	46.6	45.1	1.5	2.3	4.7	6.0	*
December	49.5	47.0	45.5	1.5	2.5	5.0	6.3	*
1976 Avg.	47.7	45.4	43.9	1.5	2.3	4.8	6.1	*
1977								
January	50.3	48.0	46.5	1.5	2.3	4.5	6.3	*
February	52.4	49.9	48.3	1.6	2.5	4.7	6.5	*
March	52.3	50.0	48.4	1.6	2.3	4.5	6.6	*
April	52.2	49.8	48.1	1.7	2.4	4.5	6.6	*
May	52.2	49.4	47.8	1.6	2.8	5.4	6.8	*
June	51.1	49.2	47.6	1.6	1.9	3.8	6.2	*
July	51.7	49.6	48.0	1.6	2.1	4.0	6.6	.1
August	53.2	50.7	49.0	1.7	2.5	4.8	6.6	.1
September	53.6	51.0	49.4	1.6	2.6	4.9	6.6	.1
October	53.3	50.7	49.2	1.5	2.6	4.9	6.3	.1
November	53.7	51.2	49.7	1.5	2.5	4.6	6.1	.1
December	53.0	50.7	49.2	1.5	2.3	4.3	5.9	.1
1977 Avg.	52.4	50.0	48.4	1.6	2.4	4.6	6.4	*
1978								
January	53.2	50.5	49.0	1.5	2.7	5.1	6.6	.1
February	55.6	52.3	50.7	1.6	3.3	5.9	7.4	.1
March	53.8	50.6	49.0	1.6	3.2	5.9	7.2	*
April	52.8	50.3	48.7	1.6	2.5	4.7	6.3	*
May	52.7	50.0	48.5	1.5	2.7	5.1	6.4	*
June	51.0	48.6	47.1	1.5	2.4	4.7	6.4	*
July	50.8	48.5	47.0	1.5	2.3	4.5	6.4	*
August	49.9	47.6	46.1	1.5	2.3	4.6	6.1	*
September	54.0	51.8	50.3	1.5	2.2	4.1	5.6	*
October	53.0	51.1	49.6	1.5	1.9	3.6	5.2	*
November	53.9	51.4	50.0	1.4	2.5	4.6	5.3	*
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

* Under 50.

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1977 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

TABLE XV

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Nov. 1978	Oct. 1978	Nov. 1977	Nov. 1978	Oct. 1978	Nov. 1977	Nov. 1978	Oct. 1978	Nov. 1977
TOTAL PRIVATE	$218.16	$218.40	$190.85	36.0	36.1	34.7	6.06	6.05	5.50
MANUFACTURING	355.18	337.42	303.30	43.0	41.3	42.9	8.26	8.17	7.07
Durable Goods	356.26	332.05	309.29	43.5	41.3	43.5	8.19	8.04	7.11
Primary Metal Industries	345.71	341.56	308.83	38.2	37.7	39.9	9.05	9.06	7.74
Nondurable Goods	351.53	350.24	288.84	41.7	41.4	41.5	8.43	8.46	6.96
Food and Kindred Products	270.09	270.82	247.83	42.4	43.4	43.1	6.37	6.24	5.75
MINING	423.65	436.49	361.46	46.2	47.6	41.5	9.17	9.17	8.71
Metal Mining	420.20	460.64	403.60	38.2	41.8	40.0	11.00	11.02	10.09
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	355.98	367.74	412.18	34.0	34.4	37.1	10.47	10.69	11.11
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	312.94	311.66	315.84	40.8	40.9	42.0	7.67	7.62	7.52
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	316.24	310.31	277.01	43.8	43.4	41.1	7.22	7.15	6.74
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	167.84	169.16	156.13	33.5	33.9	32.8	5.01	4.99	4.76
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	149.23	149.76	142.01	35.7	36.0	36.6	4.18	4.16	3.88
SERVICES	137.02	137.09	118.40	33.5	33.6	29.6	4.09	4.08	4.00

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE XVI

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

Oct. 1978

	ACCESSION RATES						SEPARATION RATES								
	Total			New Hires			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Sept. 1978	Aug. 1978	Sept. 1977	Sept. 1978	Aug. 1978	Sept. 1977	Sept. 1978	Aug. 1978	Sept. 1977	Sept. 1978	Aug. 1978	Sept. 1977	Sept. 1978	Aug. 1978	Sept 1977
MANUFACTURING	3.6	3.4	4.6	3.2	3.0	4.4	2.2	5.2	3.5	1.5	4.2	2.0	0.3	0.3	0.9
Durable Goods	2.0	2.7	1.9	1.7	2.4	1.7	2.1	4.7	2.5	1.4	3.8	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.4
Primary Metal Industries	1.9	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.1	0.8	2.3	4.9	2.0	1.2	3.2	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.5
Nondurable Goods	6.5	4.8	9.7	6.0	4.3	9.4	2.5	6.0	5.4	1.7	4.9	3.2	0.6	0.6	1.7
MINING	5.0	5.3	3.7	4.1	3.4	2.6	3.8	6.4	4.7	2.8	5.4	3.2	0.6	0.6	0.9
Metal Mining	1.2	1.5	2.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	1.5	3.2	4.5	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.4	1.7	2.6

* *Less than .05.*
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Series began January 1959.

TABLE XVIII

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggregate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

Industry	Nov. 1978	Nov. 1977	Year to Date 1978	Year to Date 1977
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	18	27	310	249
MINING	14	13	114	128
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	43	55	888	789
MANUFACTURING	17	21	244	195
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC, GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	9	16	168	162
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	74	99	1,202	1,129
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	33	28	431	403
SERVICES	92	131	1,403	1,285
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	26	3	103	73
STATE TOTAL	326	393	4,863	4,413

TABLE XVII

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS			
			Year to Date	
	Nov. 1978	Nov. 1977	1978	1977
STATE OF MONTANA	326	393	4863	4413
GREAT FALLS SMSA	24	38	409	473
BILLINGS SMSA	75	72	810	721
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	23	19	328	295
Beaverhead	4	5	55	40
Deer Lodge	0	0	22	29
Granite	0	1	12	8
Madison	4	3	38	32
Powell	1	1	32	19
Silver Bow	14	9	169	167
BOZEMAN LMA	29	29	504	402
Gallatin	22	27	408	325
Meagher	2	0	17	5
Park	5	2	79	72
GLASGOW LMA	8	16	126	125
Daniels	0	4	4	14
Phillips	1	2	16	18
Roosevelt	3	1	43	26
Sheridan	2	3	24	23
Valley	2	6	39	44
GLENDIVE LMA	17	11	198	153
Dawson	2	5	59	45
Garfield	1	0	9	7
McCone	3	0	9	12
Prairie	2	2	9	17
Richland	6	4	106	70
Wibaux	3	0	6	2
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	6	6	131	94
Big Horn	1	1	40	30
Carbon	4	4	45	34
Stillwater	0	1	24	21
Sweet Grass	1	0	22	9

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS			
			Year to Date	
	Nov. 1978	Nov. 1977	1978	1977
HAVRE LMA	7	11	144	140
Blaine	1	4	25	21
Hill	4	7	100	95
Liberty	2	0	19	24
HELENA LMA	17	33	369	347
Broadwater	1	3	16	21
Jefferson	1	1	43	19
Lewis and Clark	15	29	310	307
KALISPELL LMA	41	53	619	543
Flathead	29	33	325	367
Lake	9	13	107	100
Lincoln	3	7	87	76
LEWISTOWN LMA	4	7	106	101
Fergus	2	4	67	69
Golden Valley	0	0	3	3
Judith Basin	0	1	7	8
Musselshell	2	1	19	16
Petroleum	0	0	2	0
Wheatland	0	1	8	5
MILES CITY LMA	6	12	133	131
Carter	1	1	9	8
Custer	3	5	60	72
Fallon	1	3	17	13
Powder River	0	0	16	4
Rosebud	1	3	29	29
Treasure	0	0	2	5
MISSOULA LMA	52	66	770	710
Mineral	3	0	19	130
Missoula	41	51	558	540
Ravalli	5	11	141	110
Sanders	3	4	52	47
SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	17	20	216	178
Chouteau	1	3	24	17
Glacier	10	5	65	40
Pondera	1	4	48	47
Teton	1	3	27	16
Toole	4	5	52	58

Source of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIM TO PAYMENT

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs, enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons; to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week and for how many potential weeks is the claimant qualified. Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individual's reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under the Montana Law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

ETA5-1598 DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
NOVEMBER 1978

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	70	5,843.08
BIGHORN	172	14,735.48
BLAINE	101	7,304.30
BROADWATER	42	3,243.00
CARBON	193	17,021.67
CARTER	23	1,364.00
CASCADE	2,762	220,472.23
CHOUTEAU	66	4,595.00
CUSTER	144	10,324.48
DANIELS	13	663.00
DAWSON	84	6,801.52
DEER LODGE	468	36,836.87
FALLON	35	2,869.00
FERGUS	167	14,422.80
FLATHEAD	1,457	111,202.52
GALLATIN	973	72,434.63
GARFIELD	9	594.00
GLACIER	524	37,603.07
GOLDEN VALLEY	4	252.00
GRANITE	108	8,777.56
HILL	226	17,928.28
JEFFERSON	243	23,332.80
JUDITH BASIN	16	968.00
LAKE	414	33,178.90
LEWIS AND CLARK	1,710	139,830.08
LIBERTY	33	2,309.00
LINCOLN	563	42,919.78
MCCONE	8	744.00
MADISON	54	3,643.32
MEAGHER	42	3,829.66
MINERAL	126	8,882.03
MISSOULA	2,684	212,812.83
MUSSELSHELL	52	4,659.00
PARK	334	23,878.85
PETROLEUM	1	104.00
PHILLIPS	93	7,057.00
PONDERA	130	11,240.00
POWDER RIVER	20	1,509.00
POWELL	243	16,239.61
PRAIRIE	12	1,257.00
RAVALLI	601	43,128.21
RICHLAND	29	2,365.00
ROOSEVELT	183	12,957.55
ROSEBUD	217	19,687.00
SANDERS	193	13,492.78
SHERIDAN	13	549.00
SILVER BOW	1,824	147,849.77
STILLWATER	110	9,145.00
SWEET GRASS	17	1,775.00
TETON	47	3,146.26
TOOLE	74	5,792.80
TREASURE	1	113.00
VALLEY	190	14,746.52
WHEATLAND	37	2,900.00
WIBAUX	1	39.00
YELLOWSTONE	2,339	198,948.73
INTRASTATE	20,301	1,611,276.40
INTERSTATE	1,074	103,869.26
TOTAL	21,375	1,715,145.66

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
JANUARY 1978 THRU NOVEMBER 1978

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	1,964	148,233.81
BIGHORN	3,220	254,781.24
BLAINE	2,329	167,142.70
BROADWATER	813	63,673.74
CARBON	2,673	218,051.99
CARTER	265	18,878.00
CASCADE	33,625	2,568,656.78
CHOUTEAU	1,049	66,282.20
CUSTER	3,380	267,285.04
DANIELS	484	33,058.76
DAWSON	2,390	185,435.40
DEER LODGE	10,596	873,519.68
FALLON	780	57,623.04
FERGUS	3,812	298,473.78
FLATHEAD	24,765	1,896,175.69
GALLATIN	12,405	949,809.94
GARFIELD	204	14,844.63
GLACIER	7,637	564,286.59
GOLDEN VALLEY	134	8,003.00
GRANITE	1,649	129,377.86
HILL	4,805	357,054.37
JEFFERSON	2,619	227,573.06
JUDITH BASIN	911	74,951.21
LAKE	6,527	474,166.22
LEWIS AND CLARK	18,999	1,501,896.86
LIBERTY	465	35,434.00
LINCOLN	12,566	975,379.71
MCCONE	467	38,461.00
MADISON	1,010	76,501.25
MEAGHER	657	50,708.84
MINERAL	1,670	130,512.88
MISSOULA	33,908	2,532,764.23
MUSSELSHELL	1,115	88,983.68
PARK	4,694	330,542.46
PETROLEUM	43	3,981.00
PHILLIPS	1,483	108,217.25
PONDERA	1,572	123,718.75
POWDER RIVER	211	19,231.00
POWELL	3,114	233,501.36
PRAIRIE	444	39,987.00
RAVALLI	8,004	561,011.22
RICHLAND	1,355	103,691.20
ROOSEVELT	2,995	204,143.74
ROSEBUD	3,383	278,152.84
SANDERS	4,639	354,167.19
SHERIDAN	629	41,304.04
SILVER BOW	29,566	2,320,613.56
STILLWATER	1,349	107,448.28
SWEET GRASS	360	26,830.00
TETON	1,256	92,707.81
TOOLE	1,580	122,586.96
TREASURE	207	20,035.00
VALLEY	4,146	301,501.45
WHEATLAND	475	38,572.00
WIBAUX	183	13,610.00
YELLOWSTONE	36,834	2,949,861.40
INTRASTATE	310,101	23,996,775.89
INTERSTATE	17,415	1,924,130.98
TOTAL	327,516	42. :25,920,906.87

SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

YEAR-TO-DATE

	1978	1977	Net Change	Percent Change
Initial Claims[1/]	41,157	42,407	-1,250	*-3.0*
Continued Claims[1/]	413,051	393,783	19,268	*4.9*
Number of Benefit Payments[1/]	327,657	343,186	-15,529	*-4.5*
Amount of Benefits Paid[1/]	$25,920,945	$26,003,435	-82,490	*-0.3*
Average Weekly Benefit Amount[1/2/]	$84.00	$79.46	$4.54	*5.7*

MONTHLY

	Nov. 1978	Oct. 1978	Nov. 1978	Change From Year Ago Net	Change From Year Ago Percent
Initial Claims[1/]	5,311	3,110	4,201	1,110	*26.4*
Continued Claims[1/]	30,034	20,547	33,843	-3,809	*-11.3*
Number of Benefit Payments[1/]	21,375	16,423	24,589	-3,214	*-13.1*
Amount of Benefits Paid[1/]	$1,715,146	$1,317,893	$1,882,042	-$166,896	*-8.9*
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt[1/2/]	$83.90	$84.46	$81.28	$2.62	*3.2*
Trust Fund Balance	$6,681,504*	$4,474,729*	$91,292**	$6,590,212	*7,218.8*

1/ Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.
2/ Derived according to definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".
** Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to $10,484,089.*
*** Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to $ 9,284,089.*

The initial claims and continued claims totals rose sharply from last month, due to the start of the winter season. The trend of the year-to-date totals changed little from last month, as initial claims are again trailing last year's figures and continued claims are outpacing the 1977 totals.

The number of benefit payments and the amount of benefits paid also increased from October, but were less than the November 1977 figures. Both statistics are running behind the year-to-date totals at this point last year.

The average weekly benefit amount (AWBA) dropped from last month, but is ahead of the AWBA of a year ago at this time. The year-to-date AWBA continues to outpace the 1977 average

The trust fund balance increased for the third consecutive month, and appears much healthier than the balance at this point last year.

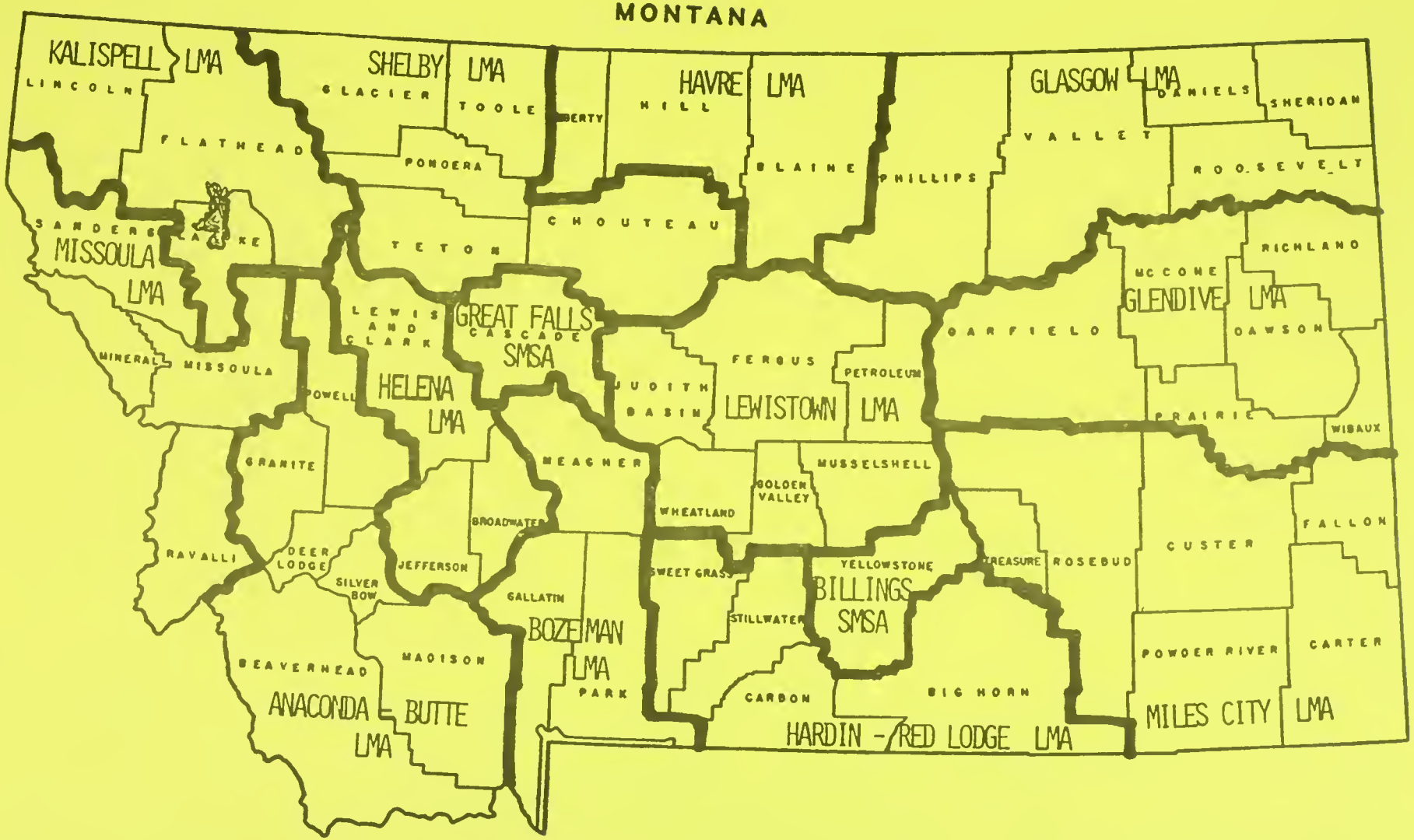
U.S. Department of Labor
Manpower Administration

MONTANA

ANNUAL STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE REPORT FOR 1978

INDUSTRY	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	11 Month Average 1978
	(In Thousands)											
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS	332.1	341.3	350.6	358.1	361.7	379.3	381.2	377.4	375.9	363.5	360.8	362.0
EMPLOYED PERSONS	305.2	311.3	321.6	334.9	341.1	354.3	358.8	357.7	358.7	347.5	342.2	339.4
Persons Employed in Agriculture	22.5	24.5	29.4	35.0	36.0	41.1	44.0	47.0	36.8	31.3	26.9	34.0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	26.9	30.0	29.0	23.2	20.6	25.0	22.4	19.7	17.2	16.0	18.6	22.6
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[a/]	8.1	8.8	8.3	6.5	5.7	6.6	5.9	5.2	4.6	4.4	5.2	6.2
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[a/]	6.6	7.4	7.2	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.1	5.6	5.2	5.3	6.2
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY (Establishment Data)	260.9	261.3	265.1	271.8	278.0	288.4	288.3	287.5	287.4	281.6	280.7	277.4
MANUFACTURING	25.2	25.0	24.8	24.7	25.5	26.6	27.3	27.2	27.2	27.2	27.0	26.2
Durable Goods	16.3	16.4	16.4	16.3	17.1	17.8	18.2	18.2	18.1	17.9	17.9	17.3
24 Lumber and Wood Products	10.1	10.2	10.0	9.8	10.5	11.1	11.3	11.3	11.2	11.0	10.9	10.6
33 Primary Metal Industries	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.3
Other Durable Goods	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.4
Nondurable Goods	8.8	8.7	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.8	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.3	9.1	8.9
20 Food and Kindred Products	4.2	4.0	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.3	4.1	4.0
27 Printing and Publishing	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.5
Mining	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.5	6.7	7.2	7.6	7.2	7.1	7.3	7.3	6.8
10 Metal Mining	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.1
12 & 14 Bitum, Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.0
13 Oil & Gas Extraction	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.7	3.1	3.1	2.7	2.6	2.9	2.9	2.7
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	12.2	12.2	13.1	15.3	16.4	18.2	18.8	19.4	19.6	18.5	17.1	16.4
15 General Building Contractors	4.2	4.1	4.4	4.9	5.4	6.2	6.5	6.5	6.6	5.9	5.7	5.9
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	3.3	3.5	3.6	4.9	5.2	5.8	5.5	5.8	5.8	5.8	4.7	4.9
17 Special Trade Contractors	4.7	4.6	5.1	5.5	5.8	6.2	6.8	7.1	7.2	6.8	6.7	6.0
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	20.3	20.3	20.4	20.5	21.3	21.9	22.0	22.3	22.9	22.7	22.7	21.6
40 Railroad Transportation	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.4	6.9
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.7	6.9	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.6
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.1
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	65.6	65.4	67.3	69.8	71.9	73.6	73.7	74.9	75.0	72.3	72.2	71.1
Wholesale Trade	15.6	15.5	15.7	16.3	16.4	16.6	16.5	16.4	16.4	16.3	16.2	16.2
Retail Trade	49.9	49.9	51.5	53.6	55.5	57.2	57.2	58.5	58.6	56.0	56.0	54.9
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	8.0	7.8	7.8	8.0	8.1	8.6	8.8	8.9	9.1	8.8	9.0	8.4
54 Food Stores	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.4
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	8.2	8.1	8.3	8.5	8.7	8.8	8.8	8.9	8.8	8.6	8.6	8.6
58 Eating and Drinking Places	16.9	17.2	18.1	19.4	20.8	21.6	21.6	22.3	22.3	20.3	20.1	20.1
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	9.8	9.9	10.2	10.3	10.5	10.6	10.5	10.6	10.8	10.7	10.7	10.4
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	11.5	11.6	11.7	11.8	11.9	12.2	12.2	12.3	12.4	12.3	12.3	12.0
SERVICES	49.0	49.1	49.8	51.1	51.2	53.8	54.0	54.5	54.9	52.1	51.5	51.9
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	5.6	5.8	5.9	6.1	6.3	8.1	8.6	8.7	8.2	6.6	6.2	6.9
72 Personal Services	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6
80 Medical and other Health Services	16.5	16.6	16.8	16.8	16.9	17.0	17.2	17.3	17.3	17.1	17.1	17.0
Other Services	24.4	24.2	24.6	25.6	25.4	26.0	25.6	25.9	26.7	25.6	25.6	25.4
GOVERNMENT	71.0	71.7	71.9	72.1	73.1	74.7	72.7	69.6	68.4	69.9	70.6	71.4
91 Federal Government	12.4	12.5	12.5	12.5	13.7	14.7	16.4	15.7	13.9	12.9	12.7	13.6
92 State Colleges and Universities	8.9	8.9	8.8	8.9	8.5	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.6
93 Local Education	24.6	25.4	25.6	25.8	25.9	25.1	21.1	18.7	20.7	23.5	24.2	23.7
93 Other Local Government	13.7	13.7	13.6	13.6	13.9	15.3	15.5	15.7	14.3	13.6	14.5	14.3

LABOR MARKET AREAS
IN
MONTANA



EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
P. O. Box 1728
Helena, MT 59601

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
LAB-449

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

The Montana State Employment Security Division maintains 23 local Job Service Offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.